The United Nations Population Award

1994

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The United Nations Population Award 1

Laureates of the 1993 Award 2

United Nations Population Award Laureates . 4

Nominations 10

Resolution Adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on the Establishment of the United Nations Population Award . . 12

Decision of the Economic and Social Council On Rules of Procedure 16

READEX
FICHE

The United Nations Population Award

The United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution on 17 December 1981 on the "Establishment of the United Nations Population Award" (36/201). The Award is presented annually to an individual, to individuals or to an institution or institutions or to any combinations thereof, for the most outstanding contribution to the awareness of population questions or to their solutions.

The laureate(s) is selected by the Committee for the United Nations Population Award. The Committee is composed of 10 representatives of Member States (Burundi, Belarus, Cameroon, Ecuador, El Salvador, India, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands and Rwanda) of the United Nations elected by the Economic and Social Council for a period of three years (1992-1994).

One decade has passed since the first laureates received the Award in 1983. Over the last 10 years, 10 individuals and 8 institutions were chosen as laureates.

Laureates of the 1993 Award

Fred T. Sai was chosen by the Committee because of his more than 20 years of leadership in the field of family planning and population. He is noted for his contributions to research on nutrition, community welfare and family planning. He was one of the founders of the National Family Planning Association of Ghana. Later, he served as Senior Population Advisor at the World Bank and also as Assistant Secretary General of International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF). While at IPPF, he assisted not only in creating its African Regional Council but also in formulating National Family Planning Associations in many African countries. He has also achieved wide acclaim in his native Ghana and internationally, through a number of fora. He served as Chairman of the Main Committee of the 1984 International Conference on Population. He also chaired the 1987 World Health Organization/UNICEF Meeting on Infant and Young Child Feeding, the findings of which provided the impetus for the establishment of the International Code of Marketing for Breast-Milk Substitutes. In 1989 he was elected president of IPPF and was re-elected in 1992.

The Population Problems Research Council of Mainichi Shimbun was chosen for its achievements in creating awareness of population issues and for publishing numerous studies, books and articles on population. The Council was created in 1949 by the Mainichi Shimbun, one of Japan's major newspaper companies, to address population concerns in Japan, which was in the midst of great confusion in the aftermath of World War II and facing a serious problem of overpopulation. The National Opinion Survey on Family Planning, conducted by the Council first in 1950 and then every two years thereafter, is the longest running and largest (in sample size) survey of its type in the world. The results of the survey have been made available though a variety of channels: the mass circulation of Mainichi Shimbun and other publications, training workshops and seminars. All these activities greatly influenced Japanese population policy and programmes, which in turn led to a sharp decline in the birth rate in Japan. The findings have been the basis for a large number of important research studies. The Council is also utilizing its knowledge and experience to help developing countries solve their population problems.

United Nations Population Award Laureates

1993 Laureates
Fred T. Sai, *Ghana*
Mainichi Shimbun Population Problems Research Council

1992 Laureates
J. R. D. Tata, *India*
The Population Council

1991 Laureates
Julia J. Henderson, *United States of America*
Centre for Population Studies and Responsible Parenthood, *Ecuador*

1990 Laureates
Professor Alfred Sauvy, *France*
National Family Health and Population Council of Mauritius

1989 Laureates
President Soeharto, *Indonesia*
Programme national de Bien-être familial of Togo

1988 Laureates
Shidzue Kato, *Japan*
PROFAMILIA, *Colombia*

1987 Laureates
President Hussain Muhammad Ershad, *Bangladesh*
National Family and Population Office of Tunisia

1986 Laureate
National Population Council of Mexico (CONAPO)

1985 Laureate
International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)

1984 Laureates
Carmen A. Miro, *Panama*
Sheldon J. Segal, *United States of America*

1983 Laureates
Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, *India*
Qian Xinzhong, *China*

1992 Laureates

J.R.D. Tata of India is one of India's leading industrialists and a pioneer in India's population movement. In the 1950s, Mr. Tata's steel firm established one of India's first factory-based family planning and family welfare programmes which served as a model for similar family planning programmes throughout the country. He was chosen by the Committee because of his over 40 years of service as a crusader for private sector activities aimed at stabilizing population growth.

The Population Council was chosen by the Committee for its excellence as a scientific research organization as well as for its work in developing new and more effective contraceptives and its training of hundreds of population experts from almost every country in the world. The most recent contraceptive developed by the Council was NORPLANT®, the long-lasting contraceptive implant currently being marketed throughout the world.

1991 Laureates

Julia J. Henderson of U.S.A. has been a pioneer, an innovator and a forceful leader of the international population movement for nearly 4 decades. She has had a long and distinguished career with the United Nations and the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF). After having retired from IPPF, she has been a volunteer in many population organizations, and is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Population Action International and the Center for Development and Population.

Centre for Population Studies and Responsible Parenthood (CEPAR) of Ecuador is a non-governmental organization that was created to develop studies on matters related to population growth and to propose corrective policies for the future. The Centre's studies have helped with the implementation of a population

policy and strategy aimed at stabilizing demographic growth and improving the quality of life. The contribution of CEPAR is reflected in the outstanding improvement of the population indicators in Ecuador in recent years.

1990 Laureates

Alfred Sauvy of France made significant contributions to the field of demography, in particular in illuminating the complex relationship between population, economics and social dynamics. He provided a scientific base on which current fertility limitation policies are established. During a professional career spanning 70 years, he was the author of over 40 books, and a bibliography of his scientific articles runs to more than 30 pages.

National Family Health and Population Council of Mauritius has been immensely successful in its family planning programme. The work of the Council led to a decline in the crude birth rate from well over 35 per 1,000 in 1965 to slightly over 18 per 1,000 in 1990. During the same period, the total fertility rate fell from more than 5 children per woman to 2 children per woman. Maternal and infant mortality have also fallen rapidly as a result of the Council's public health programme.

1989 Laureates

President Soeharto of Indonesia has provided strong support over the past 20 years for the national family planning programme of Indonesia. During the period of President Soeharto's leadership, contraceptive use rate has increased to almost 50 per cent of all eligible couples, and birth, fertility and infant mortality rates have declined dramatically.

Programme national de Bien-être familial of Togo has effectively promoted family welfare in Togo. The

Programme works closely with the Government of Togo in integrating effective family health care into public family planning services. As a result of the Programme's activities, infant and child mortality rates have fallen considerably over the past 2 decades.

1988 Laureates

Shidzue Kato of Japan was selected by the Committee for her nearly 70 years of work to enhance the status of women, to promote awareness of population problems when it was both unfashionable and often illegal to do so, and to seek means for their solution in Japan as well as in the wider world community. She was a founding member of the International Planned Parenthood Federation and in 1954 founded the Family Planning Federation of Japan.

PROFAMILIA of Colombia has helped to produce a dramatic change in reproductive patterns in Colombia, and consequently in the general level of health and welfare of the people throughout the country. Since PROFAMILIA began operations, the country's birth rate has fallen from 44 to 24 per 1,000, reducing the overall rate of population growth from 3.2 per cent to 1.7 per cent. PROFAMILIA has also helped to form regional family planning organizations through which countries assist one another.

1987 Laureates

President Hussain Muhammad Ershad of Bangladesh played a strong leadership role in the nation's family planning programme. As Army Chief of Staff prior to his presidency, he promoted population awareness and family planning in the army. After he assumed the office of the president, he gave high priority and strong personal leadership to the programme which contributed greatly to the increase in contraceptive use and the decline in the population growth rate.

National Family and Population Office of Tunisia is one of the oldest and most successful population and family planning programmes in the developing world. By the early 1980s, the programme had made effective contraceptives available to about 40 per cent of the population and had remarkably reduced the population growth rate. Its work has also been a major impetus behind a wide range of legislation aimed at raising the status of women.

1986 Laureate

National Population Council of Mexico (CONAPO) was selected for its achievements in identifying and confronting Mexico's population concerns. The organization reflects a powerful ability to co-ordinate government agencies and private associations involved in Mexico's effective fertility reduction efforts. CONAPO also deals with major problems of urbanization and population distribution.

1985 Laureate

International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) is the largest private association in promoting family planning services throughout the world. It was a leader in developing awareness of population issues more than a decade before the United Nations undertook international population assistance. Along with its work in promoting awareness, it has also helped to develop effective family planning services in over 100 countries of the world.

1984 Laureates

Carmen A. Miro of Panama has played an important role in promoting awareness of population concerns and in translating that awareness into effective polices and programmes in Latin America. For more than 30 years, she has held responsible positions in a variety of Latin American population institutes, many of which she helped

to create and develop. In Panama, she served as Director of the Office of Statistics and Census, overseeing significant modernization of the Panamanian census.

Sheldon J. Segal of U.S.A. is one of the world's best known leaders in the field of contraceptive development and a strong advocate of family planning programmes. Dr. Segal launched a programme for training scientists from other countries in research on human reproduction and fertility control. He also developed the International Committee for Contraceptive Research, an international mechanism for the development of the contraceptive technologies.

1983 Laureates

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi of India was of crucial importance to the success of India's family planning programme by creating awareness and understanding of population issues, especially at the individual and community levels. She helped form a strong non-partisan political commitment. As a result of efforts under her leadership, the birth rate in India declined from 42 per 1,000 in 1965-1970 to 35 per 1,000 in 1975-1980.

Qian Xinzhong of China, as Minister in Charge of the State Family Planning Commission and Deputy to the National People's Congress of China, organized medical workers and scientists to carry out research on contraceptives, resulting in China's self-sufficiency in contraceptive production. He also facilitated the formulation, adoption and implementation of national population policy through research and education, contributing most outstandingly to China's declining population growth rate from 26 per 1,000 in 1970 to 12 per 1,000 in 1980.

Nominations

Written nominations for the Award may be received from:

(a) Governments of Member States;
(b) Intergovernmental organizations engaged in population-related activities;
(c) Population-related non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the United Nations;
(d) University professors of population or population-related studies and heads of population-related institutions;
(e) Laureates of the Award.

Each nominator is asked to submit no more than one nomination, either for an individual or for an institution.

Only nominations which provide the information requested on the United Nations Population Award data sheet will be considered valid. The data sheet calls for detailed information describing the population-related activities of both the nominator and nominee. Detailed information concerning the nominee, whether an institution or an individual, is needed in order to ensure full consideration by the

Committee for the United Nations Population Award. The information required includes general background, specific information about population activities, and a full description and assessment of the nominee's "contribution to the awareness of population questions or to their solutions". Copies of the data sheet may be obtained by writing to Dr. Nafis Sadik, Secretary, Committee for the United Nations Population Award, c/o UNFPA, 220 East 42nd Street, New York, New York, 10017.

Nominations for the 1994 Award will be accepted through 31 December 1993. Nominations received after the deadline will be considered for the 1995 Award. The 1994 Award will be announced in February 1994 and will be presented by the Secretary-General in June 1994. Each award consists of a gold medal, a diploma and a monetary prize.

The resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on the Establishment of the United Nations Population Award and the Rules of Procedure of the Committee for the United Nations Population Award are presented in the following pages.

Resolution Adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on the Establishment of the United Nations Population Award

36/201. **Establishment of the United Nations Population Award***

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Population Plan of Action,[1] adopted by the United Nations World Population Conference, held in 1974, and noting with satisfaction the significant contributions made by the United Nations to the implementation of that Plan,

Recognizing the economic and social implications of the population trends, particularly related to development, as described in reports prepared by the United Nations and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, which indicate that world population is projected to grow from 4.4 billion in 1980 to approximately 6.1 billion by the year 2000,

Recognizing the need to promote better awareness and understanding of population issues, especially at the individual and community levels of each country and in accordance with national plans and priorities,

Further recognizing the special significance of establishing an award in order to promote that objective,

1. **Decides** to establish an annual award, to be named the United Nations Population Award, for the most outstanding contribution to the awareness of population questions or to their solutions, by an individual or individuals, by an institution or institutions or by any combination thereof, to be presented through the United Nations;

2. **Adopts** the Regulations governing the United Nations Population Award, annexed to the present resolution;

*As amended by General Assembly decision 41/445, 5 December 1986.

[1]*Report of the United Nations World Population Conference, Bucharest, 19-30 August 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75. XIII.3), chap. I.

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements, under the Regulations, for the commencement of the Award in 1983, in consultation with the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities;

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to establish a Trust Fund for the United Nations Population Award to receive voluntary contributions for the Award;

5. **Decides** that all costs related to the Award should be borne out of the Trust Fund for the United Nations Population Award.

103rd Plenary Meeting
17 December 1981

ANNEX

Regulations governing the United Nations Population Award

Article 1
Aim

The aim of the United Nations Population Award (hereinafter referred to as "the Award") is to promote the solution of population questions through encouraging the efforts of people in population-related activities and increasing the awareness of population questions.

Article 2
Award

1. The Award shall be presented annually to an individual or to individuals, to an institution or institutions or to any combination thereof, for the most outstanding contribution to increasing the awareness of population questions or to their solutions. No staff member, organ or organization of the United Nations system shall be eligible for the Award.

2. The Award shall consist of a diploma, a gold medal and a monetary prize, the amount of which shall be determined

each year by the Secretary-General on the basis of the investment income of the Trust Fund for the Award.

3. The recipient or recipients of the Award shall be announced by the beginning of March each year, and the Award shall be presented by the Secretary-General in the middle of June.

Article 3

Financial matters

1. All financial resources related to the Award shall be composed of the voluntary contributions made by Member States specifically for the Award.

2. Contributions for the Award shall be deposited in the Trust Fund for the United Nations Population Award, to be established by the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 36/201 of 17 December 1981.

3. The Trust Fund shall be administered by the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities on behalf of the Secretary-General.

4. All costs relating to the Award shall be financed from the investment income of the Trust Fund. The administrative costs shall be kept as low as possible.

5. The Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities shall submit to the General Assembly an annual report concerning the Award and the Trust Fund.

Article 4

Selection of laureates

1. The recipient or recipients of the Award shall be selected, from among those nominated under article 5 below, by a Committee for the United Nations Population Award, to be composed of:

(a) Ten representatives of States Members of the United Nations elected by the Economic and Social Council for a period of three years, with due regard to the principle of

equitable geographical representation and the need to include those Member States that have made contributions for the Award;

(b) The Secretary-General and the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, to serve as *ex officio* members;

(c) Five eminent individuals who have made significant contributions to population-related activities, to be selected by the aforementioned members of the Committee, to serve as honorary members in an advisory capacity for a renewable term of three years.

2. The Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities shall act as Secretary of the Committee.

3. The rules of procedure of the Committee shall be established by the Economic and Social Council.

Article 5

Nomination of candidates

1. Written nominations for the Award may be received from the following:

(a) Governments of Member States;

(b) Intergovernmental organizations engaged in population-related activities;

(c) Population-related non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the United Nations;

(d) University professors of population or population-related studies and heads of population-related institutions;

(e) Laureates of the Award.

2. Nominations shall reach the Secretary-General not later than 31 December of the year prior to the year for which nominations are to be considered.

3. The Committee for the United Nations Population Award shall be convened during the month of February to select the laureate or laureates of the year.

Decision of the Economic and Social Council on Rules of Procedure

Decision 1982/112. Rules of Procedure of the Committee for the United Nations Population Award*

Meetings

Rule 1

1. The Committee shall hold a regular meeting in February of each year, to select the laureate(s) of the year.

2. Special meetings may be convened with the agreement of six voting members of the Committee.

3. All meetings shall take place at United Nations Headquarters.

Chairman

Rule 2

1. The Committee shall elect a Chairman at each regular meeting, who shall serve until a successor is elected at the next regular meeting. The Chairman shall be eligible for re-election.

2. In the absence of the Chairman, the Secretary-General or his representative shall act as Chairman.

Selection of honorary members

Rule 3

1. Honorary members may be selected at any meeting of the Committee, whenever there is a vacancy or in anticipation of a vacancy during the next 12 months.

2. Honorary members selected to fill an unexpired term shall serve for the balance of that term.

*As amended by ECOSOC decision 1987/129, 26 May 1987.

Ex officio members

Rule 4

The *ex officio* members may, if necessary, act in the Committee through representatives.

Quorum

Rule 5

Representatives of six of the 10 members of the Committee elected by the Economic and Social Council shall constitute a quorum.

Decisions

Rule 6

1. Unless otherwise provided, decisions shall be made by a majority of the elected and *ex officio* members present and voting.

2. Decisions under rule 3 or rule 7 shall be made by secret ballot.

3. When one or more candidates are to be selected under rule 3 or rule 7, each voting member of the Committee may vote for as many candidates as there are places to be filled, and those candidates, in a number not exceeding the number of such places, obtaining in the first ballot a majority of the votes cast and the largest number of votes shall be considered selected.

4. If the number of candidates selected under paragraph 3 above is less than the number of places to be filled, additional ballots shall be held on a basis similar to the first one, to fill the remaining places, provided that once one or more individual candidates have been selected pursuant to rule 7, paragraph 2, the Committee may decide not to select additional ones up to the maximum originally decided. From such additional ballots the candidate obtaining the least number of votes, or on the proposal of the Chairman several candidates having received few votes, shall be eliminated.

5. If any ballot results in a tie vote among all candidates, it shall be repeated; if the tie persists for two such repeated

ballots, the Chairman shall select a successful candidate by drawing lots.

Selection of laureates

Rule 7

1. The Secretary of the Committee shall present to the Committee at the regular meeting all the nominations, received during the previous year, for laureates eligible for the United Nations Population Award.

2. The Committee shall consider the nominations submitted to it and decide on the recipient or recipients of the Award. As a rule, if the Committee decides to make the Award to more than one nominee, the Committee shall select: (a) no more than two individuals, or (b) no more than two institutions, or (c) no more than one individual and one institution.

Privacy of meetings and reports

Rule 8

1. The meetings of the Committee shall be closed.

2. The proceedings of the Committee shall be reflected in a report to be submitted to the Secretary-General after each regular meeting, which report shall be attached to the annual report to be submitted to the General Assembly by the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities.

Rules of procedure

Rule 9

1. Any of these rules may be suspended by a decision of two thirds of the elected and *ex officio* members present and voting, provided that such decision is not inconsistent with General Assembly resolution 36/201 or any other decision of the Assembly.

2. Any procedural matter not covered by these rules shall be settled in accordance with the rules applicable to committees of the Economic and Social Council.

15th Plenary Meeting
26 April 1982